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DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKETS

202-452-1805

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2004 AUG 13 A 8:51

August 3, 2004 6:23 PM

Administrator Marion Blakey
U.S. Department of Transportation
Room Plaza 401400 Seventh Street, SW.,
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Subject: Docket Number: FAA-2004-18596 - 360

Dear Administrator Blakey:

I urge you to finalize the proposed rule to permit the use of certain portable oxygen concentrator devices on aircraft.

Over one million Americans have medical conditions that require the use of supplemental oxygen to engage in activities of daily living. With appropriate supplemental oxygen, patients can lead full, productive lives. Many patients enjoy all the travel and leisure activities - except airline travel.

I am one of these people. I live in central NY. I cannot get a flight to Boston, NYC, or DC. They are all serviced by commuter planes and don't provide for oxygen. I had to take a 10 hour bus trip to see my daughter graduate from the University of Maryland. I was fortunate that the bus transportation allowed me to take oxygen for that length of a trip. I am one person of many who would benefit from this concentrator being allowed on the planes.

This proposed rule is a step in the right direction to help passengers that require supplemental oxygen travel easier. However the proposed rule should be strengthened by having the FAA require all airlines to permit the use of FAA-approved portable oxygen concentrators. Please ensure the final rule requires FAA-approved portable oxygen concentrators be allowed on board all civilian air travel.

Sincerely,

Patricia Banks